MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : Of the three sections the field portion of the first two sections of the canal has been excavated and garden portions at either end of the first section and west end of the second section have not been touched for want of lands. The work has to wait till financial conditions improve.

Toll-gate on the Vaikom-Udayamperoor Road.

225. *MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : Will the Government be pleased to state ;

(*a*) whether there is a toll-gate opened on the Vaikom-Udayamperoor road ; and

(*b*) if so, when ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) From the beginning of 1109 M. E.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know from the member whether more facilities would be provided for passengers, by opening of toll-gates.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : What facilities are referred to ?

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : By opening toll-gates Government is getting more income. I ask Government whether more facilities are provided for passengers and vehicles that pass along that road.

PRESIDENT : To justify the opening of toll-gate. Is that the question ?

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : Yes, Sir.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : Toll-gate receipts are spent on repairs to roads.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know whether there are two ferries on that road.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : I believe there are.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*) : May I know whether the *Junghars* supplied to these ferries have been reduced from 2 to 1 for crossing vehicles.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : I do not know.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know whether any definite percentage of the income derived from toll-gates is spent on the maintenance of roads?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know whether there is any separate account kept by the P. W. D. for ascertaining the collection from each of the toll-gates.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know whether Government have considered the necessity for the maintenance of such separate account ?

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MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer*) : No.

Pakuthi staff in the Trivandrum Revenue Division.

226. *MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara I*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there are, in the *pakuthi* staff of the Trivandrum Revenue Division, persons with public examination qualification in English who have also passed the Revenue and Account Tests ;

(*b*) if so, their names and service and

(*c*) whether their preferential claims for promotion have been considered ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) : Yes.

		Service.	
		Years.	*Months.*
(*b*) 1. V. Velayudhan Pillai (Accountant, Neyyattinkara Taluk)	...	11	8
2. V. Titus, (Kandukrishi Accountant)	...	3	3

(*c*) Their claims will be considered when suitable vacancies occur.

Import of tobacco.

227. *MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement containing the following information :

(i) the quantity of tobacco imported into Travancore from Jaffna, Coimbatore and Tinnevelly during the last six years ;

(ii) the total quantity of snuff, cigars, cigarettes, beedies, and other kinds of tobacco of Indian manufacture, imported during these years and

(iii) the estimated amount of money sent out of the State on account of the purchase of these commodities in each of these years ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : A *statement containing the information is laid on the table.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know, Sir, whether Government have investigated the possibility of cultivation of tobacco in Travancore and whether there is any place suitable for cultivation of tobacco in any part of Travancore ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Some time back the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries had been asked to conduct an experimental cultivation of tobacco on a small scale. Nothing further has been done in the matter.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know whether there is any proposal on the part of Government to enhance the duty on tobacco at least temporarily ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : There is no definite idea just now.

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* *Vide* Appendix

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